

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for maintaining accounting data comprising the steps of:  
providing a database for storing desired accounting data;  
5 using an automated voice interface to the database over a communication line, prompting a user to enter accounting data by speaking, the voice interface receiving audible signals indicative of words spoken by the user in response to said prompting;  
obtaining from the received audible signals certain accounting data  
10 corresponding to the words spoken by the user; and  
storing the obtained certain accounting data in the database.
2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the communication line is a wireless or land telephone network.
3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the automated voice interface is  
15 computer implemented.
4. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically providing accounting data stored in the database to another user.
5. A method as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the step of automatically providing includes providing the accounting data as a function of predefined rules.
- 20 6. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the desired accounting data includes length of time, dates, project identifier, type of expense, and the database stores desired accounting data in corresponding data fields.

7. A method as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising the step of retrieving accounting data from the database using the automated voice interface.
8. A method for maintaining accounting data of time and expenses on respective projects, comprising the steps of:
  - 5 providing a database for storing desired accounting data;  
using an automated voice interface to the database over a communication line, prompting a user to enter accounting data by speaking, the voice interface receiving audible signals indicative of words spoken by the user in response to said prompting;
  - 10 obtaining from the received audible signals certain accounting data corresponding to the words spoken by the user; and  
storing the obtained certain accounting data in the database to enable tracking and reporting of time, events and expenses corresponding to the obtained accounting data.
- 15 9. A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the communication line is a wireless or land telephone network.
10. A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the automated voice interface is computer implemented.
11. A method as claimed in Claim 8 further comprising the step of automatically  
20 providing accounting data stored in the database to another user.
12. A method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the step of automatically providing includes providing the accounting data as a function of predefined rules.

